

authority to enact and pass all such ordinances and by-laws as they may deem necessary to prevent and remove nuisances, to prohibit the running of horses, or driving of carts, waggons or other carriages, unreasonably fast within the limits of the said towns, to restrain or prohibit excessive gaming; to prohibit the firing of guns or pistols in the streets or prescribed limits of the said towns; to prevent the storage of gunpowder, or the accumulation of other combustible matter or article, in such quantities or places within the said towns respectively as may be deemed dangerous to the safety of the same; to ascertain and lay down, or to aid, assist or direct, in ascertaining, laying down, meting and bounding, the limits of the said towns; and to provide for improving and amending the streets, lanes and alleys, of the same; to make, or cause to be made, a fair and just assessment and valuation of the real and personal property within the limits of the said towns annually, for the improvement of the said towns, and other purposes herein mentioned, and the said commissioners may appoint some suitable discreet person to make such assessment or valuation as aforesaid, and levy a tax on said real and personal property in just and fair proportion, according to valuation as aforesaid, provided, that the whole of the said sum or sums of money levied so as aforesaid shall not exceed, in any one year, the sum of sixty dollars; to make such ordinances and regulations as shall be necessary for levying and collecting annually a tax of fifty cents on every dog within the limits of said towns; to impose such fines, penalties or forfeitures, for a breach of any of the by-laws or ordinances as they may think proper, not exceeding three dollars for any one offence; to pass all ordinances necessary to give effect and operation to all the powers hereby vested in the commissioners, provided that the by-laws or ordinances of the said commissioners shall not in anywise contravene the laws of the state or of the United States.

3. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the commissioners may appoint and qualify an active and discreet person annually, to be bailiff of the said towns, and to give him such directions in the execution of his office as shall be necessary to accomplish the objects of this act, and before he shall proceed to the execution of his office, he shall take an oath, or affirmation, before the said commissioners, that he will faithfully and impartially perform the duties required of him as bailiff of the said towns by this act, according to his skill and judgment, and without favour, affection or prejudice; and the duties of said bailiff shall be to attend the meetings of the said commissioners whenever he shall be so required, to perform such services for the more effectually accomplishing the objects of this act as shall be directed by the said commissioners, to prevent the tumultuous and irregular meetings of slaves, or of free negroes or mulattoes, within the limits of the said towns, or if so assembled, to disperse them by reasonable and lawful means, and also to punish, by moderate correction, all such negroes, or other slaves, as shall be found cursing and swearing profanely in the streets, or strolling about or frequenting the houses of other persons in unseasonable hours of the night.

To appoint a bailiff—his duty.

4. AND BE IT ENACTED, That if no justice of the peace is present at the time of holding the annual election for commissioners, the commissioners, or a majority of them, may hold the said elec-

May hold elections in case no justice is present.